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PROJECT BRIEFING

PROJECT: CATRANSIT EE - Berlin

ACTION: ADD/P approval of renewal 1 May 65 - 30 Apr 66

PURPOSE: To maintain a pool of indigenous couriers for the opera-

tional support of agents in East Germany.

PROGRESS: During the past year the agents under this project performed 28 operational missions in support of 18 agents or targets in East Germany and East Berlin. Fifteen agents were recruited during the last project year. All have had at least one training of familiarization mission in East Berlin. Two have actually conducted an operational mission. Eleven agents were terminated. For the first time the number of active couriers exceeds the minimum necessary for current operations. This has

enabled the Station to tighten up on compartmentation

and other security devices.

FUNDS: In FY 65

Salaries
Transportation
Supplies
Ops expenses

in FY 65

jin FY 66

5,000
500
3,250

PREVIOUS
APPROVALS: 1 May 64 - 30 Apr 65

STAFF

COMMENTS: FI and CI Staffs concur in renewal.

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(When Filled In)

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3 JUN 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Deputy Director for Plans

THROUGH:

DDP/PG

SUBJECT:

Project CATRANSIT

The Foreign Intelligence Staff recommends renewal of project CATRANSIT.

Chief Foreign Intelligence

Attachment Project



Request for Renewal of Project CATRANSIT

I. Current Objectives:

Project objectives continue to be the establishment and maintenance of a pool of indigenous couriers for the operational support of agents in East Germany. The Project serves further as a vehicle for the couriers' administrative and operational management.

II. Changes:

Although Project objectives are unchanged, the direction of courier operations has been modified to reflect conditions which have changed since Project submission. Current and anticipated East German agent operations are of a somewhat different nature than the post-Wall recontact operations which Project couriers formerly supported. Also, for the first time the number of active couriers exceeds the minimum necessary to support current and expected agent operations. Lastly, experience suggests that the security of East German operations can be increased by further compartmentation in the management of courier operations. Some features of the Project's modus operandi and administrative procedures have been modified to reflect the foregoing factors.

1. Modus Operandi

- a. Couriers are now each servicing but one agent exclusively, to limit compromise in the event the courier should unwittingly come under surveillance and contaminate the agent (s) subsequently serviced.
- b. Every effort is now made so that each courier utilizes only deaddrop sites he himself has selected, to avoid the proliferation of risk connected with a courier's using a site known to (but unused by) one or more other couriers.
- c. An even wider variety of deaddrop sites is being employed, while certain types of sites found to be potentially hazardous or unreliable are no longer used.

- d. Efforts are being made to devise an even wider variety of concealment devices as well as means for disguising the cache in place.
- e. To reduce risking overuse of experienced and reliable couriers, the number of their sector border crossings has been firmly limited.
- f. To avoid unnecessary border crossings, intensive simulated mission training exercises in West Berlin are replacing heretofore customary familiarization missions in East Berlin.
- g. Even stricter standards of performance are required of all couriers.
- h. When the courier pool is at full strength, suitable courier candidates identified in the course of the screening mechanism will nevertheless be recruited and held in standby against future need, by devising such reasonable inducements as may be necessary.
- i. Couriers whose performance has been satisfactory, upon being retired for performing the maximum number of missions, will no longer be considered for conversion to accommodation addresses or other operational support roles. Rather, through payment of minimal retainer or other suitable inducements, they will be held for eventual reactivation as couriers, with new documentation as necessary.
- j. So long as the pool of couriers is of adequate size, greatest selectivity will be employed in the screening of courier candidates for recruitment.
- k. Greater emphasis will be made during screening to identify and recruit exceptional willing and qualified candidates for eventual personal contact missions to agents in East Berlin or East Germany.

1. A small number of qualified couriers will be withheld for emergency missions in support of operations mounted by other German Station elements or other ODYOKE agencies, missions which are not predictable as to timing or frequency.

2. Personnel

- a. New Recruitments Fifteen agents were recruited during the last project year (1 May 1964 30 April 1965). All of these have had at least one training or familiarization mission in East Berlin. Two of them have actually conducted an operational mission.
- b. Terminated Personnel Eleven agents, two of whom were recruited during this period, were terminated during the past project year.

III. Intelligence Production:

Any intelligence which may be produced by this project would come as an incidental by-product of its primary service of operational support.

IV. Effectiveness:

During the Project year Project couriers performed 19 training missions and 28 operational missions, the latter in support of 18 agents or targets in East Germany and East In the course of the operational missions they have Berlin. infiltrated and deaddropped material including East German and other Bloc currency, SW carbons, pills and instructions, cipher pads and instructions, OWVL instructions, a miniature camera, accessories and instructions, a radio receiver, sanitized case officer letters, concealment devices, exfiltration documents with instructions and associated pocket litter, and intelligence collection briefing material. Agents in East Berlin and East Germany cannot be sustained without such supplies, and no facility other than that provided by Project personnel exists to resupply these denied area agents. (Attached for review is a summary of missions performed during the period 1 May 1964 - 30 March 1965.)

V. Problems:

No problems have arisen in connection with the Project's activities for which effective remedies have not been found.

VI. Liaison:

The Project is managed on a unilateral basis.

VII. Interagency Coordination:

No interagency coordination is required in the management of the Project.

VIII. Plans:

See paragraph II - l above. No substantive change in the Project activity is expected.

IX. Costs:

2.

FY 1965

- 1. 1 May 1964 30 April 1965
 - a. Obligation authority \$20,320 (as amended)

TOTALS

b. Expenditures (11 months) 17,116

FY 1966

	(2 mont) (May-Ju		(10 mor			
Number Mis- sions Planned	2		48	·	50	
Salaries]	L	NATT OF		
Transporta- tion	200		4,80	00	5,000	
Supplies	20		48	80	500	
Operational	130		3,12	20	3,250	
Expenses	<u></u>	7		gyand Gerste	F ****	1

NOTE: Most of the Project activity and expenses occur seasonally, in the summer and fall, a fact taken into account in computing the allotments.